

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 ACDA-12 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-10 EUR-12 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NASA-01 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 DOE-15
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 158639

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, UNGA, LE

SUBJECT:UNSSOD: IRAQI DRAFT RESOLUTION ON MILITARY AND
NUCLEAR ASSISTANCE

REF: STATE 144994

1. YOU WILL LEARN FROM USUN'S SEPTTEL THAT SRI LANKAN
AMBASSADOR HAS CABLED TO COLOMBO FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON
WHETHER TO CONTINUE COSPONSORSHIP OF REVISED IRAQI
RESOLUTION ON ARMS TO ISRAEL. THE PRESENT VERSION OF
THAT RESOLUTION DIFFERS FROM THE EARLIER ONE IN THAT IT
NO LONGER REFERS TO THE US AND IT ADDS REFERENCES TO
SOUTH AFRICA.

2. YOU SHOULD TAKE IMMEDIATE OPPORTUNITY TO URGE SRI
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LANKAN GOVERNMENT TO REFUSE TO COSPONSOR REVISED IRAQI
RESOLUTION ON TWO PRINCIPAL GROUNDS:

- EVEN AS ALTERED, THE US REMAINS THE TARGET OF THE
RESOLUTION BECAUSE WE ARE ISRAEL'S MAJOR ARMS SUPPLIER.
MOREOVER, IT IS TOTALLY UNREALISTIC TO PROPOSE AN
EMBARGO ON ARMS TO ISRAEL; IT COULD DO NOTHING TO

PROMOTE PROSPECTS OF PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

- THE SSOD IS SEEKING TO FUNCTION ON THE PRINCIPLE OF CONSENSUS. THE IRAQI RESOLUTION HAS SUBSTANTIAL OPPOSITION (WE BELIEVE MOST OF THE EC-9 WILL VOTE AGAINST IT, AS WELL AS OTHERS). MAINTENANCE OF THE CONSENSUS PRINCIPLE IS OF CRITICAL IMPORTANCE IF THE SSOD IS TO DO EFFECTIVE WORK ON A VARIETY OF VERY IMPORTANT ARMS CONTROL ISSUES. WE URGE SRI LANKA NOT TO LEND ITS PRESTIGE TO A RESOLUTION WHICH, IF FORCED TO A VOTE, WILL BE THE FIRST INSTANCE IN WHICH CONSENSUS IS IGNORED.

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